Salisbury Street Bridge
Spanning Chesapeake & Ohio Canal,
connecting Salisbury Street and River Park
Williamsport
Washington County
Maryland

HAER No. MD-24

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER MD, 22-WILPO, 2-

Salisbury Street Bridge

HAER No. MD-24

Location: Spanning Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, connecting Salisbury Street and River Park
Williamsport, Washington County, Maryland

Date of Construction: 1879

Builder/Designer: Patapsco Bridge & Iron Works, Baltimore, Maryland
Wendel Bollman, proprietor

Present Owner: U. S. Government
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, D. C. 20242

Present Use: Vehicular access to town park

Significance: Salisbury Street Bridge was built in 1879 for the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Company by the Patapsco Bridge & Iron Works, Baltimore, Maryland; Wendel Bollman, proprietor. It is a single-span, wrought-iron, pony-Pratt truss spanning 67 feet over the C&O Canal. The bridge has a construction depth of 9 feet and is 13 feet, 3 inches wide. It is one of two known surviving Bollman-built bridges of this simple, pony-Pratt type in the State of Maryland (not to be confused with the Bollman suspended and trussed bridge at Savage, Maryland, for which he received a patent).

Wendel Bollman, whose company manufactured this bridge, is notable as an engineer for his design of an iron suspended and trussed bridge which was one of the first all-iron bridges used consistently by a railroad. Salisbury Street Bridge is significant for its association with Bollman and because it is an early example of an important, standard truss type, in unaltered condition.

Transmitted by: Jean Yearby, HAER, 1984 from data compiled by Eric DeLony, Principal Architect, HAER